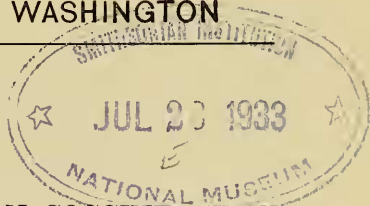


PROCEEDINGS
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A NEW GENUS OF WEST INDIAN COCCINELLIDAE
(COLEOPTERA).

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Recently Dr. George N. Wolcott of the Insular Experiment Station, Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico, submitted a series of adult specimens of a coccinellid which had been reared from larvae found attacking *Icerya purchasi* Mask. at Dorado, Puerto Rico. At the same time larvae were submitted to Dr. A. G. Böving, who will describe them in a subsequent paper.

At first glance the species appears to be related to *Rodolia* Muls., and further, its anatomical characters are not in accord with those of the species of *Scymnus* known to the writer in dissected specimens. However, since Dr. Böving's study showed the larva to be undoubtedly scymnine in its affinities, certain of the West Indian species were studied as dissections in balsam. It is now evident that a small group of species inhabiting this region should be withdrawn from *Diomus* Muls. and be given a separate name.

Diomus thoracicus Fabr., type of the genus *Diomus*, and other species including *D. roseicollis* Muls. of the West Indies, possess antennae of eleven segments (fig. 2) and tarsi of four segments (fig. 1). The new group, to which I assign the name *Decadiomus*, is immediately distinguished from *Diomus* by having ten-segmented antennae (fig. 4) and three-segmented tarsi (fig. 3).

In addition to the type species, *Scymnus (Diomus) bahamicus* Casey 1899, there are four species before the writer, all of which appear to be undescribed.

Decadiomus n. gen.

Small to minute Scymnini, with antennae short, composed of ten segments, first segment more or less inflated, second globose, third as long as the three succeeding combined, seventh a little longer and wider than sixth, eighth to tenth forming a distinct club. Mandible with apex bifid, outer margin arcuate, basal tooth subacute, notch triangular to rectangular, cutting edge between apical tooth and notch very finely serrate or smooth. Maxilla with lacinia and galea, neither of which is terminated with a spinous or hook-like process, maxillary palpus of usual form, terminal segment securiform, without special sensory pits or spines on outer face. Ligula truncate at apex, bearing four long setae evenly spaced across truncature, lateral portions thickly studded with denticles. Labial palpus two-segmented, the apical segment obtusely conical, shorter and narrower than basal segment. Clypeus broadly rounded. Epistoma slightly prolonged. Pronotum narrower at base than elytra. Elytra with epipleura moderately wide at base, strongly narrowed apically, without impressions to receive legs. Abdomen with six visible ventral segments. Metacoxal arcs joining posterior margin of first sternite at lateral thirds. Legs short, femora not noticeably inflated, reaching lateral margins of body when extended, tarsi three-segmented, claws toothed at base. Body covered with fine, short pile.

Type of genus: *Diomus bahamicus* Casey 1899.

The species included are all of pale coloration ornamented with dark spots.

1. Elytron finely, densely but indistinctly punctured, pubescence moderately dense and short.....2
 Elytron coarsely and sparsely punctured, pubescence sparse and comparatively long.....4
2. Elytron never with an isolated dark spot on apical third, base of pronotum usually (always?) narrowly dark across middle, scutellum dark; length 1.08-1.32 mm.....*bahamicus* Csy.
 Elytron with an isolated oval dark spot on apical third at middle of width, and with a scutellar spot, pronotum and scutellum entirely pale.....3
3. Humeral callus prominent and strongly shining in contrast with rest of elytron, epipleura narrowed suddenly at end of basal half; length 1.32-1.62 mm.....*pictus* n. sp.
 Humeral callus neither prominent nor strongly shining, epipleura narrowed suddenly at beginning of apical third; length 1.32 mm.....*hubbardi* n. sp.
4. Marginal groove of elytron coarsely punctured in middle third of its length, elytra each with a postmedian triangular dark spot and with a common scutellar spot which is tri-cuspidate posteriorly; length 1 mm.....*tricuspis* n. sp.
 Marginal groove of elytron impunctate throughout its length, elytra with a common scutellar spot, varying in size, which, when large, includes two small, round, pale spots; length 1.08 mm.....*peltatus* n. sp.

Specimens of the species *hubbardi*, *tricuspis*, and *pellatus* have not been dissected because of insufficient material. It is possible that the last two may prove to be generically different from *D. bahamicus* Csy.

Decadiomus bahamicus (Casey).

Figs. 3, 4, 6.

Diomus bahamicus Casey, 1899, Journ. N. Y. Ent. Soc., Vol. 7, p. 159.

Diomus putus Casey, 1899, Journ. N. Y. Ent. Soc., Vol. 7, p. 159.

Thirty-four specimens of this species are available to me for study. The series includes the following:

Bahamas, Eleuthera, July 9–15, H. F. Wickham (type and two paratypes of *D. bahamicus* Csy.—three specimens.

Bahamas, Egg Is. May 13, H. F. Wickham (paratype of *D. bahamicus* Csy. and type of *D. putus* Csy.)—two specimens.

Cuba, Prov. Habana, Santiago de las Vegas, July 14, 1930, S. C. Bruner (E. E. A. de Cuba 9382); Feb. 10, 14, 21, Mar. 3, 14, A. Otero (E. E. A. de Cuba 9544)—seven specimens.

Cuba, Prov. Santa Clara, Cayamas, Dec. 29, 30, Jan. 2, 3, 23, 26, Feb. 10, 24, 26, 28, Mar. 2, May 9, July 6, 7, E. A. Schwarz—twenty specimens.

Cuba, Prov. Habana, San Antonio de los Baños, J. H. Pazos—one specimen.
Rep. Dominicana, north of San Cristobal, July 27, 1917, H. Morrison (No. 377)—one specimen.

Decadiomus pictus n. sp.

Fig. 10.

Body small, elliptical to nearly circular, flesh-pink to red, ornamented with piceous to black markings. Head somewhat shining, very finely and rather sparsely punctured, uniformly pale. Eyes large and prominent, though partially concealed beneath anterior angles of pronotum. Pronotum transverse, sides narrowly rounded, slightly narrower across anterior than across posterior angles, surface finely and sparsely punctured, feebly shining, uniformly pale. Scutellum pale. Elytra more strongly and distinctly punctured, humeral callus prominent and shining. Each elytron bears two dark spots, one at the base lying between the humeral callus and the scutellum and extending backward about one fifth the length of the elytron, the pair of spots (on the two elytra) usually flowing together to form a cordate spot, the apex of which lies on the suture at about the basal third. The second spot, slightly postmedian, is roughly circular or elliptical with the long dimension parallel to the long dimension of the beetle. Rarely does this pair of spots join across the suture. Under parts feebly shining. Metathorax sometimes infuscate, first abdominal sternite as long as second and third combined, suture between first and second distinct.

Length 1.6 mm., breadth 1.1 mm., altitude 0.6 mm. (measurements of type specimen).

Type and five paratypes (U. S. N. M. Cat. No. 44714), one of which is

mounted on slide in euparal, from Dorado, Puerto Rico, collected as larvae July 11, 1932, and reared by Mr. Sein. The larvae were found feeding on *Icerya purchasi* Mas. Three paratypes, same data, returned to Doctor Wolcott.

***Decadiomus hubbardi* n. sp.**

Fig. 7.

Body small, oval, yellow-testaceous, ornamented with three piceous spots. Head strongly shining, sparsely and rather coarsely punctured, eyes prominent. Pronotum transverse, sides straight and convergent from the obtuse posterior angles to the broadly rounded anterior angles, surface shining, rather sparsely punctured at sides, more sparsely so on disc. Scutellum pale. Elytra shining, distinctly but not deeply punctured, humeral callus not especially prominent. Maculation as follows: A large cordate scutellar spot reaching to middle of base of each elytron and posteriorly to near basal third of suture, and on each elytron a small nearly circular spot near apical third at middle of width. Under parts shining, thorax not visibly punctured, abdominal sternites moderately coarsely punctured, first and second sternites combined as long as rest of abdomen, suture between first and second not visible.

Length 1.32 mm., breadth 0.9 mm., altitude 0.6 mm.

Type: (U. S. N. M. Cat. No. 44728) from Montserrat, W. I., Apr. 8, 1894, H. G. Hubbard.

***Decadiomus tricuspis* n. sp.**

Fig. 5.

Body small, oval, very pale stramineous (almost white), ornamented with piceous to almost black markings. Head shining, not visibly punctured, eyes prominent, black. Pronotum transverse, sides narrowly rounded to both anterior and posterior angles, surface shining, not visibly punctured, basal margin on either side of scutellum with small dark spot adjacent to basal elytral spot. Scutellum dark. Elytra shining, coarsely and sparsely punctured, submarginal groove with about ten coarse punctures along middle third of length, epipleura descending. Maculation as follows: A large basal spot which includes the scutellum and which is roughly seven-angulate; basally two angular processes extend onto the pronotum, laterally one process to each humeral callus, posteriorly a long median process along suture to a little beyond basal third, flanked on either side by a shorter process. On apical half, each elytron with a single subtriangular spot which appears to be a continuation of the posterolateral process of the basal spot. Underparts pale, first sternite almost as long as next three combined, suture between first and second distinct.

Length 1 mm., breadth 0.66 mm., altitude 0.48 mm.

Type and two paratypes (U. S. N. M. Cat. No. 44726) from Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico, January 21, 1925, H. L. Dozier, collected on *Carica papaya*, feeding on *Metaleurodicus* sp.

